

amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6, or the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7, and

(ii) at least one portion of a non FAP α protein.

Claim 21: The isolated protein of claim 20, wherein (i) consists of at least SEQ ID NOS: 4, 6 and 7.

Claim 22: An isolated peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, 6 or 7.

Claim 23: The isolated protein of claim 20, wherein said non FAP α protein is a CD8 protein.

Claim 24: The isolated protein of claim 20, wherein said at least one portion of a non FAP α protein is an extracellular domain of a CD8 protein.

Claim 25: The isolated protein of claim 20, wherein said protein is a chimeric protein.

Claim 26: The isolated protein of claim 20, wherein said protein is a fusion protein.

REMARKS

Claims 20-26 will be pending. The support for the claims will be discussed infra.

On January 16, 2002, applicants transmitted a status request to the examiner asking about the 6 month delay in the office action promised by the examiner on July 27. Applicants asked for a complete explanation for the delay - something they are entitled to.

Yet the January 29 office action ignores the request, does not address the delay, and makes no reference to the prior communications at all.

Applicants again request an explanation for the loss in patent term caused by the PTO's unexplained inaction. If the explanation is not provided, and is not completed, then applicants will take this issue to the Group Director.

Page 12 of the specification refers to

"Three segments corresponding to highly conserved catalytic domains characteristic of serine proteases such as DPPIV. These conserved sequences are presented in Table 2, which follows."